

RESOLUTION NO. 113-17

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA IN SUPPORT OF CONTINUING THE DEFERRED ACTION FOR CHILDHOOD ARRIVALS (DACA) PROGRAM AND PROTECTING IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES

WHEREAS, the City of Richmond values its ethnic, racial, linguistic, and socio-economic diversity. Our diversity is a source of our municipality's strength and the City Council is committed to ensuring that all our residents can live and pursue their livelihoods in peace and prosperity; and

WHEREAS, the Trump administration continues to try to force local municipalities to enforce federal immigration law, in addition to Immigration and Customs Enforcement's (ICE) renewed effort to contract with sheriffs to circumvent case law. This expansion of the deportation machine and local enforcement of immigration law makes everyone less safe. When local law enforcement voluntarily cooperates with or works on behalf of ICE to facilitate deportations, significant gaps in trust and cooperation grow between immigrant communities and the police. Some of these practices could expose the city to liability for violations of individuals' constitutional rights; and

WHEREAS, undue collaboration between local law enforcement and ICE will make immigrants less likely to report crimes, act as witnesses in criminal investigations and prosecutions, and provide intelligence to law enforcement. The cooperation of the City's immigrant communities is essential to prevent and solve crimes and maintain public order, safety and security in the entire City. Community policing depends on trust with every community and facilitating deportations will harm our efforts at community policing; and

WHEREAS, President Trump has recently pivoted off of defending white supremacists, back to the place where he is most comfortable: scapegoating immigrant communities through his language and promoting policies that disproportionately impact people of color; and

WHEREAS, the Trump administration is working to vilify cities who choose to protect aspiring citizens in an effort to browbeat municipalities to enforce federal immigration law; and

WHEREAS, President Trump is now threatening to shut down the federal government in order to coerce Congress to providing funds to build a wall; and

WHEREAS, the Richmond City Council is opposed to withholding federal funding to pressure local municipalities to enforce federal immigration policies. The Council also opposes the use of federal funds to build a wall along our southern border and the strong-arm tactics that include threats to shut down the federal government in order to get congressional approval to fund building a wall; and

WHEREAS, a growing number of municipalities around the country are standing up to threats against privacy and liberties by taking meaningful steps to ensure that communities are safe, and that all residents' rights are respected so that their municipality may continue to thrive; and

WHEREAS, the City of Richmond has a sacred responsibility to ensure that every individual and every family has the chance to thrive. Senate Bill 4, signed into law in Texas in May 2017, stands directly in contradiction to those values. Local elected officials all over Texas – City Councilmembers, sheriffs, county lawmakers, and state legislators – have stood up against

the legislation because it harms their ability to keep their communities safe. They have shown how it will keep families in fear and hurt law enforcement's ability to do their job; and

WHEREAS, the City Council denounces anti-immigrant bills like Texas' SB4, which promote racial profiling, discrimination and harassment of immigrant communities. The City Council is opposed to any legislation or administrative action which will provide federal funds that support the implementation of Texas SB 4; and

WHEREAS, nearly 800,000 young people who were brought to the United States as children have come forward, passed background checks, and received permission to live and work in America. With DACA, they have advanced their education, started small businesses, and more fully established themselves as integral members of our society. DACA is under immediate, existential threat by those who are undermining the President's statements that he will protect Dreamers. With state and federal leaders attacking DACA and calling for the administration to repeal it, within the next 60 days, DACA could be gone, putting 800,000 Dreamers at risk of immediate deportation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the City Council stands by immigrant youth, including those protected by DACA, and supports the continuation of the DACA program. We oppose any federal action that would rescind or tamper with the DACA initiative and request that the administration extends the dates on the Temporary Protected Status countries; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council is committed to maintaining community stakeholder engagement around implementation of policies that preserve and protect our diverse and inclusive community, and will serve as a resource for immigrant community members with questions, comments, or concerns about safety or local government's role in defending vulnerable communities.

I certify that the foregoing resolution was passed and adopted by the Council of the City of Richmond at a regular meeting thereof held September 19, 2017, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Choi, Myrick, Recinos, Willis, Vice Mayor Beckles, and Mayor Butt.

NOES: None.

ABSTENTIONS: None.

ABSENT: Councilmember Martinez.

PAMELA CHRISTIAN
CLERK OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND
(SEAL)

Approved:

TOM BUTT
Mayor

Approved as to form:

BRUCE GOODMILLER
City Attorney

State of California }
County of Contra Costa : ss.
City of Richmond }

I certify that the foregoing is a true copy of **Resolution No. 113-17**, finally passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Richmond at a regular meeting held on September 19, 2017.


Pamela Christian, Clerk of the City of Richmond